

ENET30.005A

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|           |   |                      |   |   |
|-----------|---|----------------------|---|---|
| Applicant | : | Treider, et al.      | ) | Group Art Unit 3628                               |
| Appl. No. | : | 09/447,524           | ) | CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION                   |
| Filed     | : | November 23, 1999    | ) | I hereby certify that this correspondence and all |
| For       | : | ELECTRONIC FACTORING | ) | marked attachments are being facsimile            |
| Examiner  | : | Richard Fults        | ) | transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office    |
|           |   |                      | ) | on the date shown below:                          |
|           |   |                      | ) | October 24, 2002                                  |
|           |   |                      | ) | (Date)  |
|           |   |                      | ) | Eric M. Nelson, Reg. No. 43,829                   |

REQUEST FOR NOTICE CONFIRMING CHANGE IN ATTORNEY

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

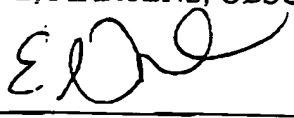
Attached is a copy of the Power of Attorney for the above-identified patent application. This was previously filed on April 10, 2000, as indicated on the attached postcard. This copy of the postcard shows that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office received these documents on April 13, 2000. Applicant submits that it has not received any formal notice confirming the change in the attorney of record. Applicant respectfully requests the Patent Office to send a notice confirming this change.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: Oct. 24, 2002

By:   
Eric M. Nelson  
Registration No. 43,829  
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FAX RECEIVED

and a stop member affixed to said line between said guide member and said releasable member, said stop engaging said guide member when said line is drawn in a proximal direction to pull said body in a proximal direction, said stop translating to engage said releasable member when said line is translated in a distal direction relative to said body so as to engage said releasable member and release said releasable member from said body as said stop member translates in a distal direction.

4. (Twice amended) The device of Claim 2 wherein the axis of the aperture of said guide is parallel to the axis of said pin.

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REMARKS

Claim 1 is directed to a releasable fishing device having a body, a first guide member attached to the proximal end of the body, a releasable member having an aperture therethrough and having a pin that has an axis, a pin housing attached to the distal end of the body, a line threaded through the first guide member and the aperture, and a stop member affixed to the line between the first guide member and the releasable member. The axis of the pin is laterally offset from the axis of the aperture.

The Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 in that the guide member recited in line 11 of Claim 1 did not have antecedent basis. That antecedent basis has been corrected by referencing the first guide member.

In addition, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(c) and Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Farr et al.

Claim 1 has been amended above to call for the axis of the aperture in the releasable member to be *laterally* offset from the axis of the pin, which also forms part of the releasable member. Farr et al. on the other hand shows a releasable member having a pin and an aperture, in which the axis of the pin is oriented at an angle of 90 degrees to the axis of the aperture. These axis, however, appear to be intersecting.

Applicant's interpretation of Farr et al. is that the axis of the pin and the axis of the aperture are intersecting and thus are not offset from each other. Thus, it is believed the claim as currently drafted distinguishes over Farr et al. However, to further distinguish from Farr et al., applicant has recited in Claim 1 that his aperture is *laterally* offset from the axis of the pin. Furthermore, in Claim 4, the axis of the aperture is recited as being parallel to the axis of the pin. It is believed that the recitation set forth in Claim 1 as well as the recitation set forth in Claim 4 both clearly distinguish from Farr et al.

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The reasons why this construction is far superior to that of Farr et al. are set forth in detail in response to the last amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review those reasons. It is believed that once the Examiner has done so and considered the foregoing amendments and remarks, he will understand that the invention is neither disclosed nor suggested in Farr et al. and that the applicant's claimed invention is novel and unobvious over the prior art.

Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reexamine the application, to reconsider and withdraw the rejections, and to promptly allow the case and pass it to issue.

The Examiner is also thanked for the brief telephone interview granted to applicant's attorney. The content of the telephone discussions is set forth above.

If the Examiner has any further questions, he is invited to call applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR  
JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>

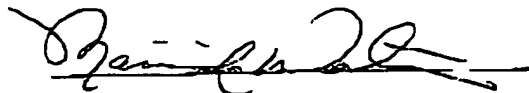


Lee E. Johnson  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 3643, Examiner Kurt C. Rowan, at facsimile number 703-306-4195 on January 8, 2003.

Date:

January 8, 2003



LEJ:ejh

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GROUP 3600

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE JANUARY 8, 2003

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A releasable fishing device comprising:

a body having a distal end and a proximal end;

a first guide member attached to the proximal end of the body;

a releasable member releasably attached to the distal end of the body, said releasable member including a pin having an axis, and a guide affixed to said pin, said guide having said aperture therethrough, said aperture having an axis, said axis of said aperture being laterally offset from the axis of said pin;

a pin housing attached to the distal end of said body, said pin housing having a bore therein for releasably receiving said pin such that said pin can slidably exit from said bore in a distal direction;

a line threaded through said first guide [member] and said aperture;

and a stop member affixed to said line between said guide member and said releasable member, said stop engaging said guide member when said line is drawn in a proximal direction to pull said body in a proximal direction, said stop translating to engage said releasable member when said line is translated in a distal direction relative to said body so as to engage said releasable member and release said releasable member from said body as said stop member translates in a distal direction.

4. (Twice amended) The device of Claim 2 wherein the axis of the aperture of said guide is parallel to the axis of said pin.

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